News Release

DeSoto & Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

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Closure of DeSoto Refuge Visitor Center the Week of November 4th

Missouri Valley, Iowa — The visitor center and Steamboat Bertrand Museum at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge will be closed the week of November 4th to complete repairs on the center's backup electrical power system related to damage cause by the flooding in 2011. If repairs are completed earlier than expected the visitor center will reopen. Visitors are encouraged to call the visitor center at 712-388-4800 on Thursday and Friday, November 7-8 for updates to the center's status. The refuge will be open as usual.

As a reminder the summer use season at DeSoto has closed as of October 15th. This means some nature trails, fishing, the boat ramp and the roads on the east half of the refuge are closed. The summer use season will reopen on April 15th.

DeSoto & Boyer Chute have re-scheduled the two public open houses to discuss the refuges Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and solicit comments. Please join us on Tuesday November 5th from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Fort Calhoun Library (110 South 14th Street, Fort Calhoun, NE); and Thursday, November 7th from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at DeSoto Refuge. Signs at the main entrance of DeSoto will direct you to the meeting location.

DeSoto & Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges are located north of Omaha, Nebraska along on U.S. Highway 30 between Missouri Valley, Iowa and along U.S. Highway 75 near Ft. Calhoun, Nebraska. For more information contact 712/388-4800 or email the refuge at desoto@fws.gov. Check our websites, www.fws.gov/refuge/boyer_chute/, for refuge updates. Like us on Facebook - search for DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.



